

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 8 Aug 51

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

COUNTRY Hungary

25X1 SUBJECT The Hungarian River Flotilla

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. The headquarters of the Hungarian River Flotilla Forces (Magyar Folyameroek Parancsnoksaga) are in the Hotel Esplanade in Budapest (Kunfy Zsigmond Utea.) The Commander is Colonel Gabor Marai, a former Austro-Hungarian naval non-commissioned officer, who played an active role in the Sailors' Revolution at Cattaro in 1918 and was dismissed. He was then educated in the USSR and is now over 60 years old. The chief of staff is Major Jozsef Hango. The Command includes two ship divisions at Budapest and Komarom, and one river blockade battalion at Baja.
2. The ship division in Budapest includes a staff, three companies, a ship administrative unit, and a mechanical company. The three companies have been brought to the marine barracks at ~~Magyar~~ ^{Magyar} Budapest, Post Office box No. 7.851. The Commander is Lt. Col Zoltan Szigeti who is more than 50 years old, and is well-liked by the men. The Deputy Commander is Major Bela Halasz, the Political Officer is Lt Geza Patko, the Adjutant is Captain Bela Sadi, a former officer in the MFTR, and the head of the Ship Administrative unit is Major Gyula Bors, a former engineer at the Ganz Hajogyar. The Company Commanders are: Captain Erno Hauptmann, Captain Denes Sully, and Ist Lt Imre Varkuti. The companies are so arranged that one of them is occupied with instruction and navigation, another with artillery service on shipboard, while the third is occupied with the engineering department. When the commissioning of a ship is ordered, the men for the different departments of the vessel are taken from the appropriate companies. The strength of the companies varies between 60 and 100 men.
3. The ships are not uniform, they are not in good condition, and more of them are needed. The monitors were all sunk during the war, but have been raised and restored at the Obuda yard. See enclosed sketch. The former patrol boats of the Hungarian River Patrol are already in service. These displace 135 tons and can develop a speed of 35 kilometers an hour on two Diesel motors of 150 hp each. The crews consist of two officers and 38 men. The armament consists of two 76.2 anti-tank guns behind shields, ~~on the forward deck and a machine gun~~ ^{on the forward deck and a machine gun}, one 87 mm anti-aircraft gun on the fantail, and two torpedo tubes.
4. The armor has been strengthened, but is not adequate to keep out heavy anti-tank shells. Armored motor boats have been brought in by the Soviets; they are protected against infantry weapons. They carry one officer and 14 men. The armament is 20 mm machine guns. The ships of the Flotilla are steamers, equipped for carrying material. They have a crew of 12 officers and 18 men. The armament consists of four machine guns, and one 37 mm automatic anti-aircraft gun.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/US OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB													
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			FBI													

SECRET/US OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

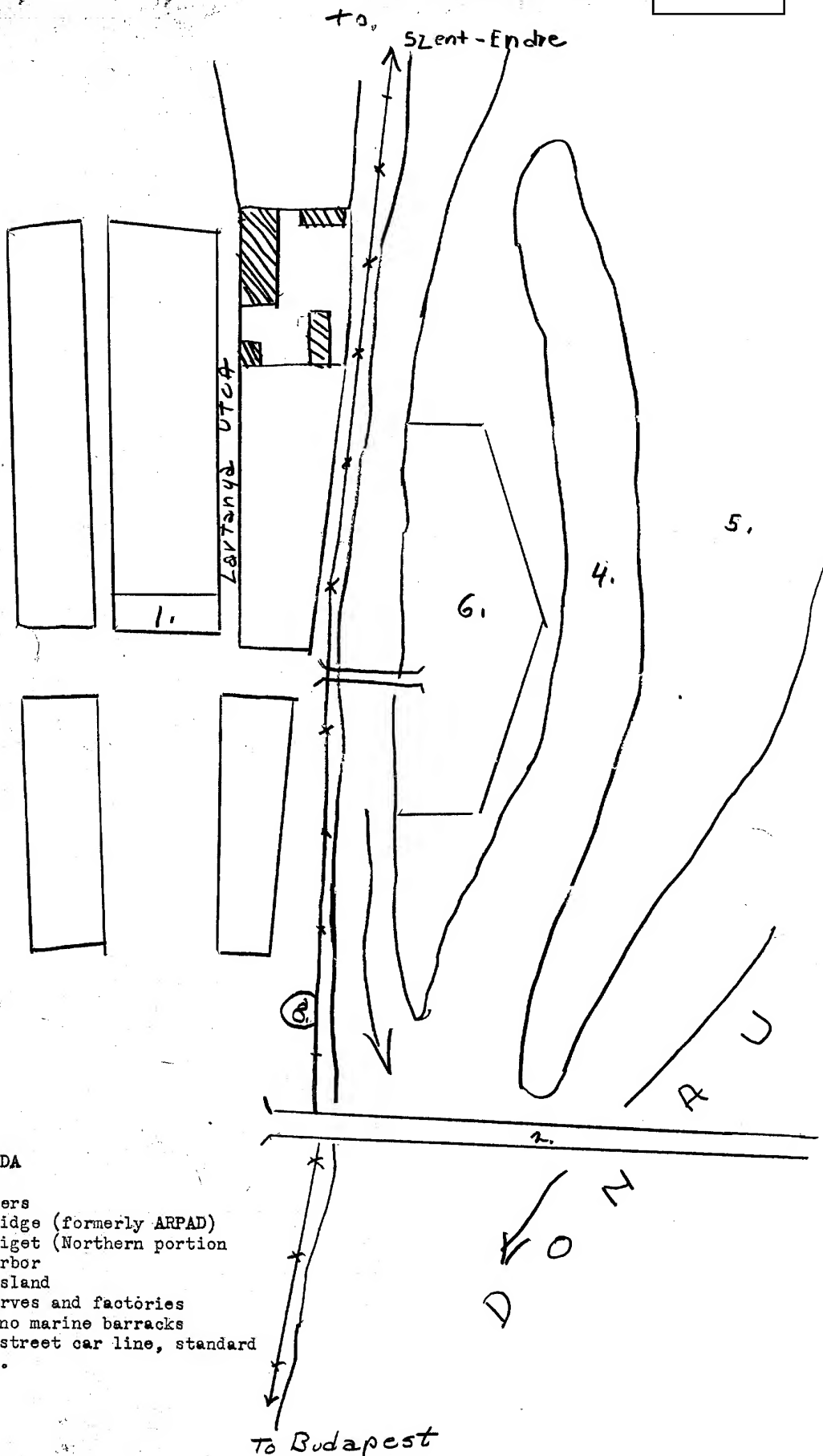
25X1

5. The River Blockade Battalion is stationed at Baja, Szamuely Tibor barracks. The organization consists of a staff, three companies, a mine sweeping company, a ship maintenance organization, and a technical administration. One company is at Mohacs and one is detached to Szeged.
6. The organization of a company includes a staff with signal troops, a mine squad, a gun squad with 76.2 anti-tank guns, a gun squad with machine guns, and a flare craft.
7. There are two mine sweepers of 400 tons each, with two 130 hp Diesel motors. The armament is a 37 mm automatic antiaircraft gun and four machine guns. Each ship has a crew of three officers and 65 men and a speed of 16 kilometers per hour. Both anchored and floating mines are used. The anchored type may be either contact mines or observed mines. Experiments are also being made with automatic mines, of both the magnetic and sonic types. Mines come in 50, 100 and 200 kilogram sizes. There are also in service, mine-torpedoes, which are operated by radio impulses against enemy minefields, bridges, etc.
8. The river flotilla is directly under the Minister of National Defense and the Chief of the General Staff. The Commander ranks as a group chief. Supplies are drawn from whatever command the ships are under geographically.
9. The river flotilla follows the tradition of the Russian Sailors' Revolt and the Sailors' Brigade of Bela Kun. It is considered as a revolutionary troop. Therefore only Party members are taken in, and only after a careful political examination. Technical knowledge plays some part, so that sailors, fishermen, and machinists are sent to this unit from all over the country.

-end-

ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch Plan of the Obuda yard.

SECRET/US OFFICIALS ONLY



Sketch of OBUDA

1. Headquarters
2. Stalin Bridge (formerly ARPAD)
3. Margit Sziget (Northern portion)
4. Winter harbor
5. OBUDAER Island
6. Ships wharves and factories
7. Heltai Jeno marine barracks
8. Electric street car line, standard gauge.